

2003P04066WOUS
Christian EDER *et al.*
Appl. No.: 10/554,171

REMARKS

Claim Status

After entry of this Amendment, Claims 19 – 21, 23 – 30 and 32 – 39 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 19, 23, 25, 26, 29, 30 and 32 – 38 are amended, and Claims 22 and 31 are cancelled. No new matter is added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objects to Claims 22, 23, 25 – 28 and 32 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicates that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowable Claim 22 depends from independent Claim 19. By this Amendment, Claim 19 is amended to include the limitations of allowable Claim 22, and Claim 22 is cancelled. Amended Claim 19 is, therefore, allowable.

Allowable Claim 23 depends from Claim 22. By this Amendment, Claim 23 is amended to depend from amended Claim 19. Claim 23 is, therefore, allowable.

Further, Claims 20, 21 and 24 depend from amended Claim 19. Claims 20, 21 and 24 are, therefore, allowable.

Allowable Claim 25 depends from independent Claim 19. By this Amendment, Claim 25 is amended to include the limitations of Claim 19. Amended Claim 25 is, therefore, allowable.

Allowable Claim 26 depends from independent Claim 19. By this Amendment, Claim 26 is amended to include the limitations of Claim 19. Amended Claim 26 is, therefore, allowable.

Allowable Claims 27 and 28 depend from allowable Claim 26. Further, by this Amendment, Claims 29 and 30 are amended to depend from allowable Claim 26. Claims 27 – 30 are, therefore, allowable.

Allowable Claim 32 depends from Claim 31, which depends from independent Claim 19. By this Amendment, Claim 32 is amended to include the limitations of independent Claim 19 and dependent Claims 31 and 20. Claim 31 is cancelled. Amended Claim 32 is, therefore, allowable.

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Further, by this Amendment, Claims 33 – 38 are amended to depend from allowable Claim 32. Claims 33 – 38 and Claim 39, which depends from Claim 38, are, therefore, allowable.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 19 – 21, 23 – 30 and 32 – 39 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests the Examiner to pass these claims to allowance.

Claim Rejections

In the present Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 19 – 21, 29, 30, 31, 33 and 35 – 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Taga (U.S. Patent No. 5,790,289), Claim 24 as being unpatentable over Taga in view of Sarkar (U.S. 2002/0167907), and Claim 34 as being unpatentable over Taga in view of Schemmann (U.S. 2002/0109883).

Notwithstanding the propriety of the instant rejections, the claims are amended as set forth in the above listing of claims. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, as discussed above, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass Claims 19 – 21, 23 – 30 and 32 – 39 to allowance.

Summary of response

Applicant has responded to the rejections in the March 5, 2008 Office Action by presenting the foregoing amendments and arguments. Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 19 – 21, 23 – 30 and 32 – 39 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw all rejections and to pass this application to the issue process.

Request for telephone interview

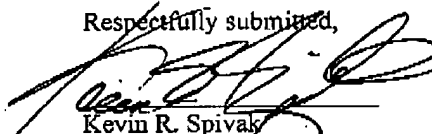
The undersigned has made a good faith effort to respond to the objection and to all of the rejections raised in the Office Action so as to place the claims in condition for immediate allowance. Nevertheless, if any undeveloped issues remain or if any issues require clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number listed below in order to resolve such issues promptly.

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Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502464 referencing attorney docket number 2003P04066WOUS. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Date: May 7, 2008

Respectfully submitted,



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